

The BEE.

Published every Saturday at 1109 1 Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

Entered at the Post Office at Washington as second class mail matter.

W. CALVIN CHASE, Editor.

The convention was lively Tuesday night.

The bolters waited on the outside of the hall thinking that they would have been sent for.

Some men are of the opinion that they are great. They are soon convinced that greatness is not in talk.

CLARA'S LETTER.

The BEE calls the attention of the school officers this week to the Clara letter, relative to the duties of the drawing teachers. Are of the drawing teachers of the 7th and 8th divisions employed by the tax payers to instruct the teachers or the children. Clara says that Mr. Hunster and his assistant refuse to let lessons on the black board for the benefit of the pupils nor will they accommodate a teacher when asked to give a lesson in drawing. Trustee Bruce and Cornish should instruct the Superintendent, Mr. Cook, to investigate this matter and report it to the Board.

If there is no need for a drawing teacher, and the trustees must do the teaching in that particular board, it is better to abolish the position. There has been too much bossism in the schools and the sooner it is abolished the better it will be for the good of the schools.

MITCHELL FOR PRESIDENT.

Editor John Mitchell, Jr., of the Richmond, Va., Planet, has called a meeting of the Colored Press Association to meet in Cincinnati, Ohio, which no doubt will be largely attended. We favor editor Mitchell for President of the Association and there is no doubt that the BEE echoes the sentiment of the entire colored press throughout the country.

There should be a Press Association in fact and not an annual political convention. Journalists should be the topic for discussion and how to make a Negro newspaper pay. The Association should eliminate Tom, Dick and Harry who have no business in the association and organize an association in fact. The BEE will be there to assist in the election of Mitchell.

EMANCIPATION DAY.

It is a question of much conjecture whether an indoors meeting would not be more beneficial to the race than a street parade April 16th. People on every side are petitioning the managers of this Anniversary Celebration to discontinue street parades but, as this question should be discussed thoroughly, it is deemed advisable that it be submitted to the committee on arrangements and whatever that committee decides there is no doubt that it will be final. The recent convention was characterized with a great deal of bitterness on the part of the opposition but without success. Blister does not frighten intelligent people and the men who created the disturbance were very soon convinced that the people intended to rule.

A SYSTEM CONDEMNED.

To the Editor of the BEE: Sir: I know of no one better than yourself to address my short letter to, on the all important school question. I do not hope or wish to contrast the past with the present mode and manner of imparting information to our youths, only so far as the former is better than the latter, as an old teacher, I confess that there are some so called improvements in our schools of today that are more of a nuisance than a benefit. Interested in the welfare of my own children as well as neighbors and friends. I have paid some little attention of late, to the workings of the present system, and have conversed with parents of both races as to the practicability and usefulness of certain instructions now being given at our public schools. First on the list let us examine the so called health exercise, something lately introduced, where our daughters are made to twist themselves into various indecent shapes, heads thrown back, chests forward,

and in that position bend the back to an injurious angle, etc.

One young lady in going through with this so called exercise, strained one of the arteries in her neck, and now suffers terribly with a constant hacking cough, and the family physician says that she is injured for life.

Where does an action lie? Mr. Editor, for damages are admissible in all such cases when it is remembered that the pupils must obey their instructors. There are times when the children should be instructed in the various studies necessary for their material advancement as students, and all the spare time should be used in something beneficial.

Exercises for health, lessons for cooking and sewing, should be left to their parents, who have always heretofore and will continue to superintend that branch of training at home. Let those young amateurs finish their course and become teachers and abandon this sinecure position as health instructors etc. If this appropriation must be used in this manner, let us suggest some of our modern inventions; let the girls be taught to ride the improved ladies bicycle, and that will be an agreeable as well as a beneficial mode of exercising them. A gymnasium for the boys, in addition to their other duties, would not be out of the way, this is not too much to ask for. In some countries, the school children ride free of charge to school in the street cars; all this is to encourage them as the future hope of any race.

More anon HILSDALE.

RATHER A LIVELY TIME

STRONG AND LOUD LANGUAGE AT A MEETING OF COLORED MEN.

THE EMANCIPATION-DAY PARADE

IN THE SELECTION OF ITS MANAGERS AND MARSHAL THERE WAS SOME OF THE OLD-TIME BITTERNESS SHOWN, BUT THE CHASE FACTION HAS THE UPPER HAND—THE FORCE BILL.

Daily Post.

The convention of delegates from the several legislative district of the city of to make arrangements and select a marshal for the Emancipation Day celebration, April 16 next, assembled Tues., night at the Cadet's armory hall, on O street. W. Calvin Chase was named as temporary chairman and W. H. Jones temporary secretary. They were subsequently, amid much din and confusion, elected permanent officers of the meeting.

The proceedings of the convention were anything else than harmonious, and several scurrilous speeches occurred, but no blood was drawn. One man was ejected from the hall during a pandemonium of yells and disorder, and Chairman Chase nearly wore out a cane in banging upon a table in his efforts to restore peace. The sergeant-at-arms went about the hall shaking a cane over the heads of some of the malcontents, and one man called out, "Let us have peace, harmony, and beans."

The committee on credentials were out a considerable length of time. During their absence C. H. Marshall and others made speeches. Mr. Marshall said that he was always around when there was to be an Emancipation Day celebration although he had heretofore met with opposition. He did not think a man was fit to lead who was not fit to follow. He wanted the Emancipation celebration to be an honorable one.

George H. Boston said he would rather be a pusher than a puller. He did not want the suffrages of the colored voters. He would like to see in line on the next Emancipation Day celebration not 3,000 or 4,000 old and crippled men, but 20,000 young bucks, glad that they were free from the shackles of slavery.

During the speech there was much confusion in the hall. "There are some here," said the speaker, "who would not be quiet if the Saviour was in the room—some who have no reason, but if they had been sold on the block as others had been they would have all the reason that God has entitled them to. We have assembled," continued the speaker, "to glorify the pen with which Abraham Lincoln struck off the shackles of the slaves. Let us be a unit, and let there be no discord and division in our ranks when we march past a President who led a brigade during the dark days of the war."

"Some people," said William Simpson; "think that we make too much fuss over our Emancipation Day parade. It is the day we celebrate of our having been made freemen and citizens. I hope to live

and see a great many more Emancipation Day celebrations."

"Old Man" Ruffin, as he was greeted by some of those present, had something to say about his treatment in regard to Emancipation Day celebrations. "I have," said he, "always contributed. I have my \$5, but what did I get in return? Only a sore back. I do not want to see so much whisky drinking from some of the money contributed for the cause."

Chairman Chase said it was the wish of some that the President should appoint a colored commissioner to the World's Fair, but he thought a guarantee of civil and political liberty was much better than that. He took the opportunity to offer a resolution reciting that it was the wish of the colored citizens of the District of Columbia that Congress pass some law that would guarantee the colored people of the United States a free exercise of their civil and political liberty.

The resolution was, of course, adopted by acclamation. The turbulent element in the hall continued its noise and it was impossible to preserve order. The delegates and those who were not delegates swayed to and fro about, and confusion became worse confounded. "It would take a gatling gun to keep those people back," one man pertinently remarked.

When the committee on credentials finally returned to the hall it was the signal for another storm of words and threats. One demonstrative individual wanted all the names that had been taken in the hall thrown out.

During the confusion one of the delegates said: "What are we doing here, anyhow? We are fighting and quarreling over the celebration of our independence. Shame on you."

A sensation at this stage of the proceedings occurred in yells of "Put him out, put him out!" A rush was made towards a man who had been very conspicuous in his noise during the meeting. Friends and foes got mixed, and a general fight seemed imminent. The man was ejected and business was again proceeded with.

A resolution was offered declaring W. Calvin Chase as president and W. H. Jones as secretary for the ensuing year, which met with a rather positive objection from the South Washington delegates. Upon the roll being called the officers named were re-elected for the ensuing year. They were also elected to take full charge of the Emancipation Day exercises, which will be held at Lincoln Park. W. H. Jones was elected marshal, and the meeting at a late hour adjourned.

THE LINCOLN BIRTH-DAY ANNIVERSARY.

Col. Arnold introduced Mr. Waring in the following words. Ladies and gentlemen:

One year ago this night, a distinguished American addressed an audience in the city of New York that had assembled for the same purpose that brings us here this evening.

I have the permission, and crave yours, to use a portion of his speech on that occasion, in order to enable me fittingly to perform the pleasant duty assigned to me this evening.

"We here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain; that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom; and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth." (Applause.)

It was a strange mingling of mirth and tears, of the tragic and of the grotesque, of Socrates and Rabelais, of Aesop and Marcus Aurelius, of all that was gentle and just, humorous and honest, merciful and wise, laughable, love able and divine, and all consecrated to the use of man, while over and above all, was an awe inspiring sense of obligation of chivalry, loyalty to truth, and upon all the shadow of the tragic end.

I have the pleasure to introduce Mr. Everett J. Waring. (Loud applause.)

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY.

A LARGE MEETING—MR. WARING'S ELOQUENT SPEECH.

The memory of Abraham Lincoln, so sacred to every American citizen, was appropriately honored last Thursday night at the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, the occasion being the eighty-second anniversary of his birthday. The ceremonies were held under the auspices of the Plymouth Argumentative Lyceum, the members and friends of which completely filled the spacious church. Seated on the stage were many of the prom-

inent colored men of the District and Southern States, among them being:

Gen. Robert Small, South Carolina, John H. Smyth, H. P. Williams, E. M. Hewlett, J. M. Townsend, Lemuel Bailey, H. J. Europe, L. M. Hershaw, C. S. Morris, John A. Rector, Col. William H. Lester, Gen. R. C. D. Jarnette, Rev. J. W. Beckett, Prof. Cromwell, Rev. Dr. Dericks, L. W. B. Pugh, Hon. T. H. Walker, Alabama, Dr. J. Curtis, Hon. John R. Lynch, Robert H. Terrell, and Walter H. Thomas, Ohio.

Before the invocation was delivered by Rev. J. M. Townsend, Miss Emma Smith played an appropriate peace on the organ. Miss J. W. Mason then recited the poem which was such a favorite of President Lincoln, "Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud?" During the exercises Prof. Layton's choir sang most pleasantly, while the National air, led by Miss Lula Hamer, was enthusiastically joined in by the entire audience. The benediction was delivered by Rev. Sterling N. Brown, after which every one visited the church fair on the floor below. The fair will continue two weeks longer.

The oration of the evening was delivered by Mr. E. J. Waring, a prominent member of the Baltimore bar, choosing as his subject, "Problem or question—which or neither?"

"The most distinguished negro of the age has said," began the orator, "there is no race problem. Is he right or wrong, or does he misinterpret what is daily transpiring around us, or is it merely an oratorical pyrotechnic whereby by lengthy disquisitions he disguises the 'race problem'?"

Whatever may be the fact it will not be disputed that the presence of 8,000,000 of negroes in this country is a subject of most prolific discussion, of profound thought, of extensive legislation, and of serious discussions. You may call it a problem or not, but the fact still cannot be controverted that it is yet undetermined what is to be the social, political, religious, civil, industrial, domestic status of these 8,000,000 of negroes in this country.

In the North the negroes could vote; their voices were counted; they could hold office; they could practice the professions freely; they could marry black or white; they could teach white children, and in many parts of the North the question of racial distinctions and discriminations were rapidly adjusting themselves.

He eliminated as an element of the problem the negroes North. The negro problem was the pre-eminent question of the day. It involved directly the future of the black man and indirectly the future of the white man.

WEST WASHINGTON NOTES.

The Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church, having paid the last debt on the church, which cost \$26,000.00, have held jubilee exercises for one week as follows: On Tuesday evening a sermon by Rev. W. H. Draper of Ebenezer church, on Wednesday night by Rev. B. Meyers of Silver Springs, Md., on Thursday night by Rev. George Elliott, D. D., of Round Bay church, and on Friday night by Rev. D. G. Hall of Ebenezer A. M. E. church. Sunday services general experience 5 o'clock a. m., conducted by Rev. Edgar Murphy. 10 a. m., presentation of Bible by Miss Julia Brisco. 11 a. m., preaching by Rev. W. P. Ryder, P. E. 2:30 by Rev. M. F. B. Rice, D. D., of Dunbarton Street church. 4:30 young peoples meeting. 7:30 Rev. Alexander Dennis of Annapolis, Md. addressed by Mr. J. W. Lee and Mr. D. G. N. Weyman and the history of the church by Mr. Jas. L. Turner. The choir under the leadership of Mr. R. A. Parotte, furnished excellent music. Rev. T. O. Carroll is pastor.

The citizens of this section will work earnestly for the success of the emancipation celebration.

THE ELECTIONS BILL.

Dr. Charles B. Purvis, at the request of the committee of 100 appointed at the mass meeting of citizens some time ago, has appointed the following sub-committee to wait on Congress and the President of the United States relative to the passage of the Federal Elections Bill: Dr. C. B. Purvis, Hon. John R. Lynch, John M. Langston, T. H. Miller, H. P. Cheatham, Col. Geo. M. Arnold, R. V. Walter H. Brooks, Jas. H. Smith, Chas. S. Morris, Wm. Calvin Chase.

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HALF A MILLION GARDENS

Advertisement for Peter Henderson & Co. Seeds and Plants. The ad features the company's name in a large, stylized font, along with a list of various seeds and plants available for purchase. It also mentions the company's location in New York City and provides contact information for orders.

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